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Metropolitan District Commission Public Information Office 20 Somerset Street, Boston, MA 02108 (617) 727-5215 Open Space.

Green rolling hills, cool flowing rivers, swaying trees, crisp clean air. This is what we imagine when we think of open space. The Metropolitan District Commission has been committed to this idea for over one hundred years.

We invite you to enjoy the many open spaces we are offering in the metropolitan Boston area.

Skiing in the Middlesex Fells Reservation, sailing the Charles River, or hiking at the Blue Hills are just a few of the activities offered. Historical programs are also offered; learn about native American folklore at Moswetuset Hummock in Quincy and harbor defense in early American wars at Georges, Lovells, Peddocks and Castle Islands. Learn about salt marsh ecology at Belle Isle Marsh, or take a nature walk through beautiful Breakheart Reservation.

In addition to open spaces, MetroParks offers recreational facilities for your enjoyment. Swimming, skating, sailing, golfing, free outdoor concerts, and much more are waiting for you.

Whatever your interests, there's an open space for you! But, please remember, safety is a major concern--please observe all rules and regulations. With your help, we can preserve the integrity of our parkland for generations to come.

> Thank you, MetroParks Staff





Restrooms



Bathhouse



First aid



Center



Access



Handicapped Concession



Athletic Field



Bandstand Music Shell



Bike Path



Boat Landing Boat Launch





Bridle Path







Canoeing



Fishing



Golf Course





Tower





Sailing



Skating Rink



X-Country Ski Area



Downhill Ski Area



Swimming Beach



Swimming Pool



Tennis Court Tot-Lot



Beaver Brook Reservation

66 Mill Street, Belmont (also in Waltham) 484-6357 Open year-round, dawn to dusk.

The first reservation to be set aside by the Metropolitan Parks Commission (later the MDC) in 1893, Beaver Brook Reservation is 59 acres of open fields, wetlands and woodlands. Ponds, fields, marsh, and a cascading waterfall make the park's north section a delightful place to walk or picnic. The more developed south section features recreational amenities of ballfields and a tot-lot.



Beaver Brook's historic significance is amplified by reminders of its past, including the remains of a nineteenth century barn, and the historic Plympton House (c. 1835).

Free Programs

Natural history programs offered at Beaver Brook cover topics such as wildlife, the once majestic Waverly Oaks, and the ecosystems of ponds, wetlands and woodlands. Beaver Brook's cultural history is highlighted in discussions about the formation of the parks system and the reservation's land use history. Special programs for children and a walking club for senior citizens are also offered.



Directions

MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Station. MBTA-Bus #73, Waverly Square (20 minutes). Exit at Mill St. onto Trapelo Rd. Park is located on either side of Trapelo Rd. Reservation Headquarters is on Mill St., the first house on the left.

By Car: From Harvard Sq., take Mt. Aubum St. toward Belmont, turn right onto Belmont St., bear right onto Trapelo Rd., right onto Mill St. Or, take Rt. 2 to Winter St., Belmont, left onto Concord Ave., go 100 yards and bear right onto Mill St. Or, follow Rt. 60 (Pleasant St.) to Trapelo Rd., 500 yards to Southern Section.

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation

146 Bennington Street, East Boston (also in Revere and Winthrop) 727-5350

Open year-round, 10:00am to dusk.

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation preserves 152 acres of the 241-acre Belle Isle Marsh, the largest remaining salt marsh in Boston. A unique place to explore, the reservation exemplifies the type of wetlands that once lined the Massachusetts Bay shore. Centuries of flourishing plant life have made the marsh more fertile than the richest farmland. Its protected waters are nurseries to fish and shellfish and are critical habitat to many salt marsh plants and wildlife rare to the metropolitan area.



In addition to the preservation of the natural areas of the marsh, the Metropolitan District Commission manages 28 acres of landscaped park with pathways, benches and an observation tower.

Free Programs

Guided walks explain the natural and cultural history of Belle Isle. Topics covered include salt marsh ecology and the history of man's use of and impact on the marsh. Special programs for community and school groups can also be arranged by contacting the Reservation staff. Please refer to page 36 for group permit information.



Directions

MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs Station, exit onto Bennington St., tum left, entrance 500 yards on right.

By Car: From south take 93N through Callahan Tunnel onto Rt. 1A, take second exit (Winthrop/Chelsea) onto Bennington St. Continue 1.5 miles to main entrance on right. From north take Rt. 1A south, left at the Ramada Inn sign in E. Boston and follow Boardman St. to Bennington St. Take a left onto Bennington, continue for a half mile, entrance is on the right.

Blue Hills Reservation

695 Hillside Street, Milton (also in Quincy, Canton, Braintree, Dedham and Randolph) 698-1802 Open year-round, dawn to dusk

Blue Hills Reservation (5,800 acres) which includes Fowl Meadow Reservation (894 acres) makes up the largest open space within thirty-five miles of Boston. Its varied landscape provides terrific recreational and educational opportunities. The woodland reservation contains hundreds of different varieties of trees, shrubs and wildflowers that are home to a great diversity of wildlife, some of which are rare to Massachusetts.

The reservation boasts twenty hilltops that range in elevation from 259 feet to the 635 foot Great Blue Hill, the highest point along the Atlantic Coast, south of Maine. It also has more than fifty prehistoric archaeological sites discovered to date, and sixteen historic sites, including the Redman Farmhouse (1795) and the Great Blue Hill Weather Observatory (1885), one of the first in the nation.

Free Programs

Visitor Services staff offer interpretive programs that focus on the area's natural and cultural history, from prehistoric times to present day. Discussions, walks, workshops, and special events are presented year-round on a wide array of topics including wildlife, recreational activities, Native American life and resource management.



Directions

MBTA: West Area-Red Line to Ashmont Station, high speed line to Mattapan, take Canton and Blue Hills bus to Trailside Museum. Central Area-Red Line to Ashmont, take MBTA bus #240 or #240A southbound, exit at Randolph Ave. and Chickatawbut Rd., Chickatawbut Overlook is one mile east, Houghton's Pond is two miles west on Chickatawbut Rd.

East Area-Red Line to Quincy Center, take MBTA bus #238, exit at West and Willard Streets across from skating rink, cross rink parking lot to St. Moritz Nature Trail.

(The MBTA provides only limited access to the Blue Hills area, long walks are required to reach the reservation.)

By Car: Rt. 128 to Exit 3, Houghton's Pond. Turn right at stop sign onto Hillside St. Houghton's Pond is approximately one mile on the right. Or continue to Reservation Headquarters on the left, next to the MDC stables.

Blue Hills Reservation Ouincy Ouarries Historic Site

Ricciuti Drive, West Quincy, 727-6236 Open year-round, dawn to dusk.

In 1985, the Metropolitan District Commission purchased twenty-two acres adjacent to the Blue Hills Reservation, including Granite Railway Quarry. It was here, in West Quincy, that America's large-scale granite quarrying industry was born in 1825 when, after an exhaustive search throughout New England, Solomon Willard selected the area as the source of stone for the Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown. With his development of the revolutionary construction techniques that made hard Quincy granite a practical building stone, Willard earned the title "Father of the Granite Industry."

Here too, the Granite Railway was established in 1826. The Railway is a Civil Engineering Landmark. A pioneer in the American railroad industry, Gridley Bryant, engineered its design and construction and many of his inventions are still in use today.

During the next 140 years, over fifty quarries operated in Quincy, which became known nationwide as "the Granite City." The last active quarry closed in 1963.

Popular activities at the Quincy Quarries Historic Site include hiking, rock climbing, picnicking and scenic viewing.

Free Programs

Visitor Services staff offer programs year-round that highlight the rich history and natural resources of this unique area. Offered by request to groups are: "The Birth of Two Industries," a one and a half hour walk through history that explores remnants of large scale granite quarrying and the commercial railroad, which began at the West Quincy Quarries; and "Quarries Greenbelt Hike," a five-hour hike that investigates historic sites that are listed on the National Register.



Directions

MBTA: Red Line to Quincy Center, take MBTA bus #215 to Copeland and Willard Streets, turn left on Willard, cross under Expressway and take first right onto Ricciuti Drice. Quarries are 1/4 mile on right.

By Car: Route 93 (S.E. Expressway) to Furnace Brook Parkway (exit 8) follow signs to Willard Street and cross under Route 93. Take the first right onto Ricciuti Dr. at Mr. Tux. Quarries are 1/4 mile on right.

Boston Harbor Islands

Harbor Region Office - 98 Taylor St., Boston, 727-5250

The Boston Harbor Islands are a unique natural and cultural resource located just 45 minutes from Downtown Boston. Visitors can enjoy picnicking, hiking, and camping, learn about wildlife and military fortifications, and see spectacular views of the sea and the Boston skyline.

This park is operated cooperatively by the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) and the Department of Environmental Management (DEM). The MDC manages Georges, Lovells and Peddocks Islands.

Ferry Service

Ferry service is available from Rowes and Long Wharves in Boston and also from Hingham, Hull and Lynn. Most ferries transport visitors to Georges Island where a free water taxi can be taken to five other islands. The ferries are privately owned and charge a small fee. Please call the ferry lines for scheduling information: Bay State Cruises, 723-7800; Boston Harbor Cruises, 227-4321; Massachusetts Bay Lines, 749-4500. Information on the water taxi service is available from the DEM, 740-1605.

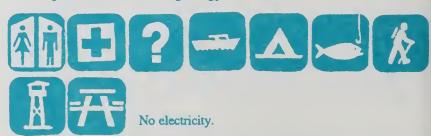
Day use permits are required for groups of 25 or more. Permits are also required for camping and school groups. Please refer to page 36 for group permit and docking information.

Peddocks Island

One of the largest and most diverse, this 113-acre island features cool woodlands, open fields, rocky beaches and a salt marsh. At the east head of the island, the buildings of Fort Andrews, active from 1904 through World War II, still stand but are slowly being reclaimed by nature. The middle head of the island contains an old cottage community and the west head of the island is a designated wildlife sanctuary. All parts of the island can be viewed by walking along the shoreline, the longest of all of the harbor islands. Peddocks Island is accessible by the free water taxi from Georges Island and by ferry from Boston during the summer months

Free Programs

Island walks, fort tours, and special events portray the history of the island, and highlight military use, folklore, wildlife, wildflowers, harbor pollution issues and geology.



Georges Island

The 28-acre island is dominated by Fort Warren, a National Historic Landmark. Constructed between 1833 and 1869 of handhewn granite from the neighboring communities of Quincy and Cape Ann, Fort Warren achieved national prominence during the Civil War as a prison for captured Confederates. For over a century it served as a key location for the defense of Boston. Georges Island now serves as the entrance to the Boston Harbor Islands State Park and provides free inter-island water taxi service, rest room facilities, running water and a concession stand. Georges is open to the public from mid-April through early November.

Free Programs

Visitor services staff provide fort tours, historical programs and slide shows. Natural history and harbor pollution programs are also offered. Special school programs and curriculum materials are available by permit during the spring and fall.



Lovells Island

Characterized by its long beaches and diverse wildlife, 62-acre Lovells Island is a peaceful and primitive island. Along its shores there are both rocky tide pools and sand dunes. Lovells Island has the only lifeguard-supervised swimming beach in the Harbor Islands, offering relaxing recreation and a beautiful view of the outer harbor.

Hidden in the center of the island are the remnants of Fort Standish, a turn-of-the-century military installation. Now overgrown, the marsh, grassland, and wooded areas attract a great variety of birds. The island also has a surprisingly large population of rabbits.

Lovells Island is accessible by the free water taxi from Georges Island during the summer months.

Free Programs

Special events and daily programs bring to life the military history and folklore, and discuss geology, water quality, plants and birds of the island.



No electricity or running water.

Breakheart Reservation

177 Forest Street, Saugus, MA 01902 (Also in Wakefield) 233-0834

Open year-round, dawn to dusk. Vehicle access from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 10:00am to 6:00pm.

Breakheart Reservation is a 672-acre hardwood forest that is accented by jagged, rocky outcroppings, two freshwater lakes, and a rambling section of the Saugus River. Seven rocky hills, each over two hundred feet high, provide vistas of Boston, southern New Hampshire, and Central Massachusetts. An extensive trail system through the woodlands guides visitors to various areas of the reservation.



Fishing in Silver and Pearce Lakes, hiking the trails and birdwatching by the Saugus River are popular activities which can be enjoyed year-round. The supervised swimming area at Pearce Lake, one of the few freshwater swimming spots north of Boston, draws crowds in the summer. In addition to its natural resources, the reservation owns a rich cultural history.

Free Programs

Visitor Services staff offer year-round interpretive programs which feature the abundant plant and animal life of the woods and ponds as well as reservation management issues and cultural themes of the reservation's past. In the summer, most programs begin at the Pearce Lake swimming area. Many of the programs are suitable for children. In addition, special school programs are offered in the spring for grades K through 12. Please call the Reservation staff for more information.



Directions

MBTÁ: Blue Line to Wonderland Station, take MBTA Bus # 440 (Central Square, Lynn). From Lynn take MBTA Bus #429 to Walnut Street. Exit at Rt. 1 and walk south for 1/2 mile. Turn right on Lynn Fells Parkway and walk 1/3 mile on Forest Street, turn right on Forest Street to park entrance. By Car: Route 1 to Lynn Fells Parkway, entrance on Forest Street. Pine Tops Road begins at entrance and loops for two miles with access to picnic areas, ponds and trails.

Castle Island

William J. Day Boulevard, South Boston, 268-5744

Open year-round. Fort Independence is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day, hours vary.

Fort Independence, a pentagonal five-bastioned granite fort built between 1834 and 1851, is the dominating feature of Castle Island. This 22-acre urban park is connected to the mainland by both pedestrian and vehicular causeways. The fort and the island, both on the State and National Registers of Historic Places, are currently undergoing a multi-phase restoration project.

Free Programs

Fort tours are conducted in the summer months and there is interpretive signage for self-guided tours.



Directions

MBTA: Red Line to Broadway Station, MBTA bus #9 or #11 to the end of the line, or Green Line to Copley Station, MBTA #9 to the end of the line. From here walk to the right across Marine Park to the beach, walk left along the beach to the entrance of the fort.

By Car: Route 3 to JFK exit, follow beach along William J. Day Boulevard, Castle Island is at the end of the Causeway.

Charles River Reservation

The Charles River Reservation is a linear park extending from the Museum of Science in Boston to Cutler Park in Dedham. Many recreational facilities dot the river as it winds around the metropolitan area. The Hatch Memorial Shell dominates the Esplanade area along with many pools, ballfields, tennis courts, fitness centers and an eighteen-mile running course.

Many smaller parks along the river make up this unique reservation including Forest Grove, Hemlock Gorge, John F. Kennedy Memorial Park, Cutler Park and Riverside Park. Free programming is available at these parks during the summer. Please see the following two pages for more information.



Charles River Reservation

Cutler Park

Needham and Dedham, open year-round, dawn to dusk

Cutler Park's 600 acres make it the largest remaining freshwater marsh on the middle Charles. The marsh and small lake attract over one hundred species of birds also making Cutler Park a prime spot for nature study. Other activities suitable to this wetland preserve are hiking, canoeing and fishing. The following facilities are located at nearby Riverdale Park.



Directions

By Car: Riverdale Trail-Take VFW Parkway in West Roxbury, right onto Rt. 9, one mile to right onto Pine Street, one mile to trailhead, just beyond last street on right.

Kendrick St. Trail-Rt. 9 to Hammond Pond Pkwy., right at rotary to Newton St., first left onto Nahanton St. which becomes Kendrick St. after crossing Charles River. Left between Red Cross and Polaroid building.

Forest Grove

Woerd Avenue, Waltham and Newton, 484-6357 Open year-round, dawn to dusk.

Forest Grove, part of the Charles River Reservation, offers a stretch of woods and fields for nature study, picnicking or just relaxing. Superb views and cool breezes can be enjoyed by birdwatchers and fishermen alike.

Free Programs

Forest Grove is primarily a passive recreational area but fishing programs are offered to children during the summer months. Canoeing is also popular.



Directions

MBTA: Take the Green Line to Kenmore Square, and take MBTA Bus # 57 (Watertown Square). Exit at Newton Corner on Washington Street. Take MBTA Bus # 58 (Auburndale) and exit at Woerd Avenue.

By Car: From Main Street in Waltham turn onto Moody Street, right onto Rumford, left on Woerd Avenue.

Charles River Reservation

Hemlock Gorge

Main entrance on Central Ave., Needham (also in Newton and Wellesley) 727-4573. Open year-round, dawn to dusk.

Hemlock Gorge is a small 23-acre wild area along the banks of the Charles River. The park is dominated by the steep gorge, the river, its surrounding stands of Hemlock trees and Echo Bridge, a huge granite brick structure that spans the river and gorge. When built in 1877 by the Boston Water Works, the bridge was the second largest masonry arch in the United States. In 1982, it was designated a National Historic Landmark. Atop the bridge, one is afforded fabulous views of the river and neighboring lands. From a platform beneath the bridge's central arch, visitors have long enjoyed testing the echo that gave the structure its name.

Free Programs

Free programs relating to the cultural and natural history, as well as artistic and exploratory programs are offered at the site.



Directions

MBTA: Green Line (D Riverside) to Eliot, walk southwest on Eliot St., cross the river and Eliot becomes Central Ave. Main trailhead located on the right side of the street just across the river.

By Car: Rt. 128 to Rt. 9 East, take first right off Rt. 9 onto William St. Take second right onto Chestnut St. Turn right at first set of lights onto Eliot St., go approximately one quarter mile (across river). Here Eliot becomes Central Ave. Take first right onto Hamilton Place to Reservation entrance and parking.

John F. Kennedy Park

JFK Street, Cambridge, 727-5215, open year-round, dawn to dusk.

A memorial to President John F. Kennedy, Kennedy Park was officially dedicated in May of 1987.

The five-acre park uses materials indigenous to New England including granite for the foundation and entrance pillars, which are enscribed with quotations from the President's speeches, and a variety of trees native to the region.

Intended for the public's passive enjoyment, the park is primarily a pedestrian corridor with benches for resting and a memorial fountain for viewing.

Directions

MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square Station, walk to Memorial Drive, park is at intersection of Memorial Dr. and JFK Street.

By Car: Take Storrow or Memorial Drive to JFK Street in Cambridge.

Lynn-Nahant Beach Reservation

Lynn-Nahant, 581-1956 Open year-round, dawn to 11:00 pm Lifeguards on duty late June to Labor Day, 10am to 6pm.

An impressive seascape can be viewed from 2.5 miles of ocean front property. Late June to Labor Day, visitors soak up the sun or cool off in the shallow, unpolluted water of Nahant Bay. Lifeguards are stationed on both Nahant and nearby King's Beach.

Joggers and walkers throng the reservation's promenade and the vast beach of hard-packed sand provides welcome open space at low tide. At Red Rock, tidepools are alive with the vivid color of marine plants. At low tide, the rocky shore can be safely approached from King's Beach. Children will enjoy making their own discoveries

of scurrying hermit crabs and bright green sea urchins.

Recreation fields offer baseball, raquetball and tennis. A tot-lot adjoins the bathhouse where shower facilities are available free of charge. Restrooms are located nearby both on the promenade and one mile to the south on the causeway. A parking lot for 1,300 vehicles allows quick and easy access to the beach but visitors should take care not to damage vegetation when crossing the dunes.

The Commission acquired the reservation in 1900. All private buildings, including Samuel Soule's 1855 *Hotel Nahant were* removed in order to allow public access to the coast.

Free Programs

Interpretive programs and beach-related recreational activities are offered year-round. School programming features marine biology and oceanography. Contact reservation staff for further information.



Directions

MBTA: From Haymarket Station to Central Square, Lynn, take MBTA bus #400, 440, 441 or 442, or commuter rail, or take Blue Line to Wonderland, bus #441 or 442 (Marblehead). From Central Square take bus #439 to the rotary near bathhouse.

By Car: Lynnway (Rt. 1A) to Leo Carroll Highway to Lynn Shore Drive. Lynn Beach and King's Beach are left after the rotary, Nahant Beach is right after the rotary.

Middlesex Fells Reservation

1 Woodland Rd., Stoneham, 322-2851 (Also in Medford, Winchester, Malden, Melrose) Open year-round, dawn to dusk.

"Fells" is the catchy Saxon word for rocky, hilly tracts of landan apt name for this scenic area, rich in local history. Areas in this picturesque region were once favored for logging, granite quarrying, ice harvesting, and waterpower for mills that manufactured the first vulcanized rubber products.

Today, the Middlesex Fells Reservation's 2,060 acres offer a welcome retreat for city dwellers and a suitable terrain for hikers, horseback riders, rock climbers, cross-country skiers and picnickers as well as natural and cultural history buffs.

Special features for visitors include the Sheepfold Picnic Area, Bellevue Pond, and Virginia Woods.

Free Programs

Programs focussing on the cultural and natural history of the Middlesex Fells Reservation are offered to the public year-round.



Directions

MBTA: Orange Line to Wellington Station, MBTA bus #100 to Elm Street, walk south to the rotary, turn right on South Border Rd., Bellevue Pond and ski area are 1/5 mile right on South Border Rd. Sheepfold Section-when you exit on Elm Street, walk north on Rt. 28 underneath the overpass, sign is on the left.

By Car: Take I-93 to exit 33, Rt. 28 Fellsway West, from rotary, go north on the Fellsway or South Border Road, or I-93, exit 34, take Pond Street east to Woodland Rd. Look for pulloffs.

Mystic River Reservation

Along the banks of the Mystic River are beautiful, green parks for passive and active recreation. Mary O'Malley Park in Chelsea is a perfect location for quiet strolls and picnics, and during the summer months, concerts are held at the bandstand. Foss Park in Somerville offers tennis courts, ballfields and playgrounds. Winding up towards the Middlesex Fells Reservation, the river flows past athletic fields, tennis courts and the Blessing of the Bay sailing facility. The Condon Shell in Medford offers free concerts throughout the summer. The Mystic Lakes in the Medford/Arlington area are great for fishing and Sandy Beach in Winchester is a scenic freshwater beach with picnic areas and a children's playground.

Quabbin Reservoir

Belchertown, MA (413) 323-7221

(Also in Barre, Petersham, Orange, New Salem, and Pelham areas.) Open year-round, dawn to dusk. Fishing season mid-April to mid-October.

Quabbin Reservoir is one of the largest man-made domestic water supplies in the United States. It was created in the 1930's by the construction of two huge earth dams that were used to contain the waters of the three branches of the Swift River. It remains a great engineering feat and one of the largest untreated water supplies in the world



Quabbin water covers 39.4 square miles. The Reservoir is eighteen miles long and has 181 miles of shoreline. Fishing is a popular activity at the Reservoir. Quabbin's fishery is comprised of both coldwater and warmwater species. (Fishing licenses are required.) Boat rentals and parking are available throughout the season.

Scenic beauty, water and abundant wildlife resources make Quabbin a very special place, but remember--Quabbin is a drinking water supply for over 2 million people. Its continued purity and beauty depend upon careful and considerate use of the land and water.

Programs

The Quabbin Visitor Center offers information on the history, wildlife and management of the reservoir and the watershed lands. Come to the Visitor Center located at Windsor Dam in Belchertown, open weekdays 8:00 am-4:00pm and weekends 10:00 am-4:00pm, or call (413) 323-7221.



Directions

By Car: From Boston take the Mass Tumpike to Exit 8 (Palmer). Proceed north on Route 32 for about 8 miles to the intersection of Route 9 in Ware. Tum left and proceed west on Route 9 toward Belchertown for about 4 miles. Follow signs to Quabbin Reservoir-Windsor Dam.

Southwest Corridor Park

South End, Roxbury, Jamaica Plain 727-5246 Open year-round dawn to dusk.

The Southwest Corridor Park is a new 52-acre linear park that stretches 4.7 miles across a number of Boston's neighborhoods. Approximately twenty-five percent of the new relocated Orange Line is beneath the park. The park has a vast assortment of children's playground equipment, irrigated garden areas, tennis courts, basketball courts, spray pools, street hockey rinks and amphitheaters. Eight new transportation stations provide access to the park.

The Southwest Corridor Park provides high quality recreational amenities and programs. It has enhanced the physical and economic redevelopment of the neighborhoods it traverses and has become a new strand in Boston's Emerald Necklace.



Free Programs

The Southwest Corridor Park offers a wide variety of active and passive recreation programs for all ages. Cultural and entertainment activities are featured at the Mission Hill and Boylston Street decks. Community gardening is a highlighted program throughout the park for all ages. Supervised playgrounds, structured summer youth activities and interpretive walks on the natural and social history of the park are also featured.

Many neighborhood organizations are involved with the Southwest Corridor Park through partnership programs.



Directions

MBTA: Take the Orange Line to any of the following stations: Back Bay, Massachusetts Avenue, Ruggles, Roxbury Crossing, Jackson Square, Stonybrook, Green Street or Forest Hills.

By Car: From I 93 North or South, take Roxbury/Mass. Ave. Exit. Continue south to Melnea Cass Boulevard and continue to Tremont Street. Continue left to the south section of the park or right to the north section of the park.

Stony Brook Reservation

Turtle Pond Parkway, West Roxbury, Hyde Park 698-1802 Open year-round, dawn to dusk.

Starting in West Roxbury,
Turtle Pond Parkway winds its way
through extensive tree covered hills
and valleys, rock-outcroppings and
wetlands, past Turtle Pond, into
Hyde Park still further, past an array
of recreational facilities. In its 475
acres, Stony Brook Reservation
bursts with nature and man-made
diversity.

Ten to twelve miles of hiking trails meander through the quiet, forested portion of the reservation. Sunfish and perch swim in the fresh waters of Turtle Pond, an easily accessible spot for fishing. Nearby a paved bicycle trail begins, heading south toward the Blue Hills Reservation.



In the Reservation's southern section are soccer and baseball fields, tennis courts, picnic areas, the Bajko Rink, and the Olsen Pool. A very special feature is the John F. Thompson Center, New England's first recreational facility designed specifically for the handicapped. Available by reservation only, information about the center is available by calling 361-6161.



Directions

MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills Station, MBTA bus (Dedham) to Turtle Pond Parkway to the developed area.

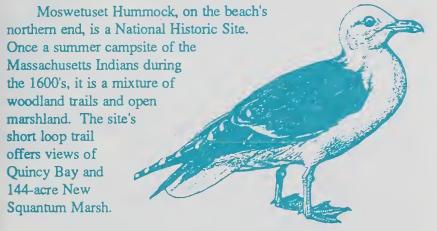
By Car: From Washington Street at Forest Hills Station, 3 miles on Washington Street, towards Dedham, left onto Turtle Pond Parkway.

Wollaston Beach Reservation

Quincy Shore Drive, Quincy
727-5293 or 773-7954 (summer only)
Open year-round, dawn to dusk. Bathhouse open April to October.

Wollaston Beach Reservation offers a variety of recreational and educational opportunities. Quincy Shore Drive links Wollaston Beach with Caddy Memorial Park and Moswetuset Hummock to provide a unique blend of landscapes.

The 2.3 mile beach is popular for its jogging/bicycling trail and supervised swimming. Caddy Park, on the southern end of the beach, has over 15 acres of fields and marshland complete with play area, lookout tower and picnic tables.



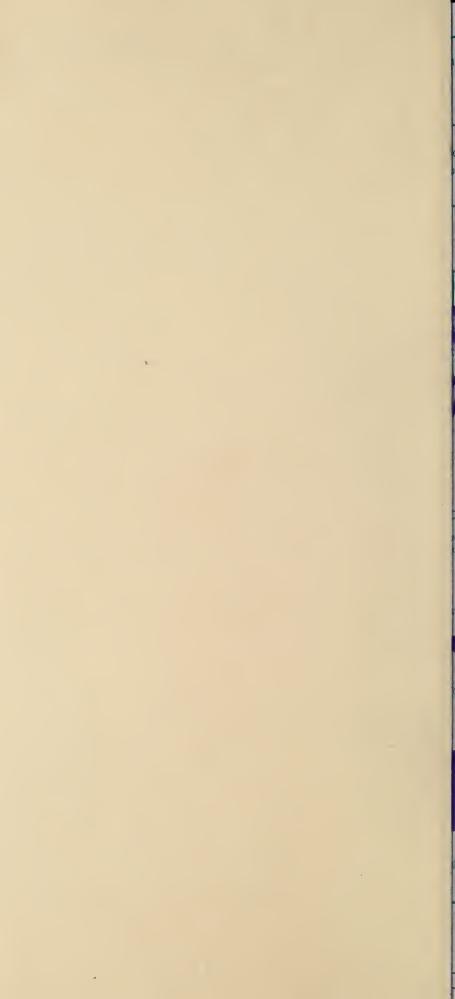
Free Programs

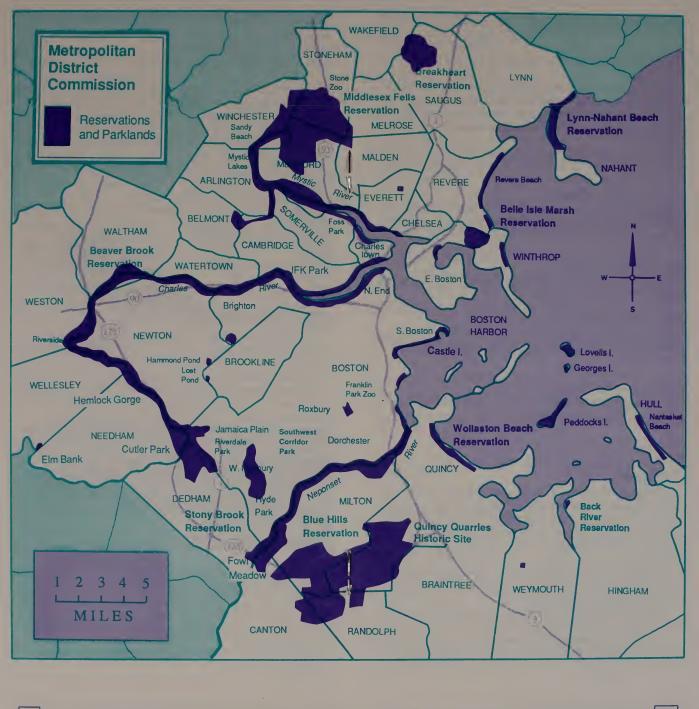
Visitor Services staff offer guided walks and special events yearround that feature the area's rich natural and cultural history and recreational potential. Topics include Native American history, harbor pollution, salt marsh ecology and marine life. Special school programs are also available.



Directions

MBTA: Caddy Park-Red Line to Wollaston Street, proceed to Hancock St., turn right and walk one block to Beach Street, turn left on beach and continue on Quincy Shore Drive. Moswetuset Hummock-Red Line to Quincy Center or North Quincy Station, MBTA bus #211 to Squantum, exit at E. Squantum St. and Quincy Shore Drive, proceed to small wooded knoll 200 yards east. By Car: Rt. 93 south to Exit 12 (Neponset). Bear right at lights onto Neponset River Bridge. Left lanes become Quincy Shore Drive. Bathhouse is on the right.





Recreational Facilities...

The Metropolitan District Commission's Recreational Facilities and Programs Unit offers a wide variety of activities for all ages, all year long! Along with 22 skating rinks and 18 swimming pools, the MDC maintains hundreds of basketball courts, athletic fields and playgrounds.

If you would like more information on a facility, please call one of our district offices:

Charles District, 782-0090

Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Brighton, Cambridge, Charlestown, Needham, North End, Somerville, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, and Weston.

Harbor District, 727-5209

Boston Harbor Islands, Dorchester, Hull, Mattapan, Quincy, Roxbury, South Boston, and Weymouth.

Mystic District, 662-8370

Chelsea, East Boston, Everett, Lynn, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Nahant, Revere, Saugus, Stoneham, Winthrop, Winchester, and Wakefield.

Neponset District, 698-8768

Canton, Cleveland Circle, Dedham, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Milton, Randolph, and West Roxbury.

Programs

The MDC offers many programs to the public year-round. In the summer, swimming lessons are available for all ages and levels at all MetroParks pools. Health Enhancement Programs which include aerobic classes, tennis lessons and our two Bay State Health Care Par Courses along the Charles River are offered to promote health in today's society.

Games, arts and crafts, the MetroParks Zoomobile, and the Children's Theatre are just a few of the activities that are offered by our Playgrounds in Motion Program.

During the winter months, the Ice Plus Program offers skating lessons, games and activities at our skating rinks.

All of our programs are free to the public. If you would like more information please call the Special Events office at 727-9547.

Bandstands & Neighborhood Music Shells

Free outdoor concerts featuring a wide variety of music!

BOSTON-HATCH MEMORIAL SHELL, Storrow Drive The Performing Arts Series at the Hatch Shell features a different type of music every night of the week including jazz, country, classical, oldies, international dance and music, and swing. Concerts run from June through September.

CHELSEA-MARY O'MALLEY PARK Commandant's Way

EAST BOSTON-CONSTITUTION BEACH, Orient Heights

HULL-BERNIE KING PAVILION, Nantasket Beach

HYDE PARK-MARTINI SHELL, Truman Highway

LYNN-RED ROCK, Lynn Shore Drive

MEDFORD-CONDON SHELL, Mystic Valley Parkway

MILTON-HOUGHTON"S POND BANDSTAND Hillside Street, Blue Hills Reservation

QUINCY-CHICKATAWBUT HILL Chickatawbut Road, Blue Hills Reservation

REVERE-REVERE BEACH BANDSTAND Revere Beach Boulevard

SOUTH BOSTON-MARINE PARK BANDSTAND

Day Boulevard

Concert Series Schedules

Complete schedules of the concert series are available by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to: MDC Public Information 20 Somerset Street Boston, MA 02108. Please indicate bandstand location. (Summertime only)



Beaches

727-5215

Beaches are open from late June to early September. Lifeguards are on duty 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (B) Bathhouse

FRESH WATER

MILTON-HOUGHTON'S POND (B)

Blue Hills Reservation, Hillside Street, Rts. 128 and 138

SAUGUS-JOHN A.W. PEARCE LAKE

Breakheart Reservation, Forest Street off Lynn Fells Parkway

WINCHESTER-SANDY BEACH

Upper Mystic Lake off Mystic Valley Pkwy.

SALT WATER

BOSTON-LOVELLS ISLAND, Boston Harbor

DORCHESTER-MALIBU BEACH, Morrissey Boulevard (B)

DORCHESTER-SAVIN HILL BEACH, Morrissey Boulevard

DORCHESTER-TENEAN BEACH, Morrissey Boulevard

EAST BOSTON-CONSTITUTION BEACH, Orient Heights (B)

HULL-NANTASKET BEACH, Nantasket Avenue (B)

LYNN-KING'S BEACH, Lynn Shore Drive

LYNN-LYNN BEACH, Lynn Shore Drive

NAHANT-NAHANT BEACH, Nahant Road (B)

QUINCY-WOLLASTON BEACH, Quincy Shore Drive (B)

REVERE-REVERE BEACH, Revere Beach Boulevard (B)

REVERE-SHORT BEACH, Winthrop Parkway

SOUTH BOSTON-CARSON BEACH, Day Boulevard (B)

SOUTH BOSTON-CASTLE ISLAND, Day Boulevard

SOUTH BOSTON-CITY POINT, Day Boulevard

SOUTH BOSTON-M STREET BEACH, Day Boulevard

SOUTH BOSTON-PLEASURE BAY, Day Boulevard

WINTHROP-WINTHROP BEACH, Winthrop Shore Drive

Bicycle Paths

DR. PAUL DUDLEY WHITE CHARLES RIVER BIKE PATH, Boston, Cambridge, Newton, Watertown. Nearly eighteen mile circuit between Science Park and Watertown Square.

STONY BROOK RESERVATION BIKE PATH, Turtle Pond Parkway, W. Roxbury, Hyde Park. Approximately four miles.

MYSTIC RIVER RESERVATION BIKE PATH, Somerville and Everett, 3.5 mile-long loop from the Wellington Bridge in Somerville along the Mystic River to beyond the Wellington Bridge in Everett.

Boat Landings

BOSTON-CHARLES RIVER
Clarendon Street, Back Bay
Hatch Shell, Embankment Road
Pinckney Street, Back Bay
Brooks Street at Nonantum Rd., Brighton
Artesani Playground off Soldiers Fld. Rd., Brighton
Charles River Dam at the Museum of Science

BOSTON HARBOR

Georges Island, Lovells Island, Peddocks Island

CAMBRIDGE-CHARLES RIVER
Cambridge Parkway near Longfellow Bridge
Memorial Drive opposite Ames Street

SOUTH BOSTON-Kelly's Landing, Day Boulevard

WATERTOWN-CHARLES RIVER, Watertown Square

Boat Launchings

BOSTON-CHARLES RIVER-Daly Recreational Center, Nonantum Rd., Brighton/Newton.

CAMBRIDGE-CHARLES RIVER-Magazine Beach off Memorial Drive (cartop boats only)

MEDFORD-MYSTIC RIVER-Fellsway

NAHANT-NAHANT BEACH-Harbor side

WALTHAM-FOREST GROVE, Woerd Street

Camping

BOSTON HARBOR-LOVELLS ISLAND

A permit to camp on Lovells Island must be obtained by writing to the MDC Reservations and Historic Sites, 98 Taylor Street, Dorchester, MA 02122. Pets and alcohol are not allowed. Free water taxi service operated by the Department of Environmental Management leaves Georges Island daily and visits Lovells, Peddocks, Gallops, Grape and Bumpkin Islands. For further information about the Harbor Islands State Park call 727-5359. (See p. 6 for ferry info)

SAUGUS-CAMP NIHAN

Walnut Street, Route 129. This 47-acre site adjacent to the Breakheart Reservation provides overnight camping for supervised youth groups belonging to non-profit organizations. The facilities at Camp Nihan include: 4 cabins with bunks housing 12 persons each, 6 campsites (each campsite can accommodate 25-30 people) and the first four campsites have charcoal grills. Swimming (pond), hiking, fishing, canoeing, cross-country skiing are available for all campers. (For permit information see p. 36)

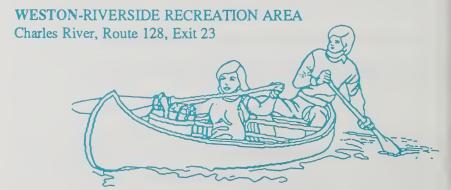
Canoe Launchings

NEWTON-RIVERSIDE CANOE LAUNCH Charles River

NEEDHAM-CANOE LAUNCH, Charles River, Kendrick Street

NEEDHAM-VILLAGE FALLS, Charles River, Redwing Bay

WELLESLEY-WESTGATE CANOE LAUNCH, Charles River



Canoe Rentals

NEWTON-CHARLES RIVER CANOE AND KAYAK SERVICE

2401 Commonwealth Ave. 965-5110

Season: Early-April to late-October

Weekdays, noon to 6:00 p.m., weekends, 9:00 a.m. to dusk.

Please call 965-5110 for rate information.

Fishing

FRESH WATER

BELCHERTOWN-QUABBIN RESERVOIR - 25,216-acre water area, located 65 miles west of Boston. See p. 14 for more info.

BELMONT-MILL POND, Beaver Brook Reservation, Mill Street

BOSTON TO WESTON, CHARLES RIVER, Shore Fishing

HYDE PARK, TURTLE POND, Stony Brook Reservation

MALDEN-FELLSMERE POND, (children's fishing area)

MEDFORD-QUARTER MILE POND

Middlesex Fells Reservation, Woodland Road

MEDFORD/WINCHESTER-MYSTIC LAKES

Middlesex Fells Reservation, Mystic Valley Parkway

MILTON-CANTON

BLUE HILL RIVER, Blue Hills Reservation HOUGHTON'S POND, Hillside Street HULTMAN'S POND, Blue Hills Parkway and Canton Street PINE TREE BROOK, Harland Street and Unquity Road PONKAPOAG POND, Randolph Street

NEEDHAM-CUTLER PARK, Kendrick Street

QUINCY-ST. MORITZ POND, Off Furnace Brook Parkway

SAUGUS-PEARCE AND SILVER LAKES

Breakheart Reservation, Lynn Fells Parkway near Rt. 1.

STONEHAM-DARK HOLLOW POND, Middlesex Fells, Rt. 28

WALTHAM-FOREST GROVE, Charles River

WINCHESTER-ABERJONA RIVER

Mystic River Reservation, Mystic Valley Parkway

SALT WATER

SOUTH BOSTON

JOHN J. MC CORKLE FISHING PIER, Castle Island, Day Blvd. CITY POINT, Rotunda, Day Boulevard, (Pier Fishing)

LYNN-WILLIS FISHING PIER, Lynnway at Gen. Edwards Bridge

QUINCY-BLACK'S CREEK, Quincy Shore Drive, (Surf casting)

REVERE-REVERE BEACH, Revere Beach Boulevard

NAHANT-NAHANT BEACH, Nahant Road

Foot Trails & Bridle Paths

Trail maps are available at the MDC 20 Somerset Street, 4th Floor, Boston, 02108, 727-5250 or at Reservation Headquarters.

BLUE HILLS RESERVATION

Braintree, Canton, Milton, Randolph and Quincy

MIDDLESEX FELLS RESERVATION

Malden, Medford, Melrose, Stoneham, and Winchester

BREAKHEART RESERVATION, Saugus, Wakefield

Golf Courses

CANTON

PONKAPOAG GOLF COURSE, 828-4242.

Season: Early April to early-December

Hours: 6:00am to dusk, seven days per week.

Ponkapoag Golf Course, home of the New England C.Y.O. Tournament and the New England Junior Golf Tournament, is one of the few 36-hole facilities in Massachusetts. Course #1 is long, narrow and of championship caliber. Course #2 is average length, wide, and easily adaptable for the average golfer.

Features:

Thirty-six holes, practice green, full driving range, restaurant, full pro shop, lessons.

Rt. 138 off Rt. 128, Exit 2.

WESTON

LEO J. MARTIN MEMORIAL GOLF COURSE, 894-4903.

Season: Early April to early December

Hours: 5:30am to dusk, seven days per week.

The Leo J. Martin Golf Course, home of Ouimet Museum and Foundation and the Mass. Golf Association, began play in the 1930's. During the winter months, the Martin is transformed into the most complete cross-country ski facility in eastern Massachusetts

reatures:

Eighteen holes, practice green, full driving range, snack bar, full pro shop, lessons.

Rt. 128 South, Exit 54 to Rt. 30, right on Concord Road, Rt. 128 North, Exit 51 to Rt. 30, left on Park Road.

INNER CLUBS AT MARTIN AND PONKAPOAG

Both of the MetroParks golf courses have strong Inner Clubs for both men and women. The Inner Club, for a fee, supplies each golfer with a handicap. It is the Inner Club's responsibility to set up tournaments and oversee the handicap system.

Museums & Historic Sites

BOSTON-FORT WARREN, Georges Island

The island has been used for military purposes since the American Revolution. The fort's first use was as a prison during the Civil War for Confederate military and civil personnel. See p. 6 for ferry info.

BOSTON-FORT INDEPENDENCE, Castle Island Continuous fortification since 1634. Present fort built 1801. See p. 9 for more information.

MILTON-TRAILSIDE MUSEUM

Blue Hills Reservation, 1904 Canton Ave.

Live animal exhibits and other displays showing the natural history of the Blue Hills area. Trails up to Great Blue Hill. Call 333-0690 for more information. See p. 4 for directions.

OUINCY-THE QUINCY HOMESTEAD

34 Butler Road, corner of Hancock Street. Historic homestead built in 1706 with furnishings of the 1822 period. For more information call 472-5117.

Observation Towers

727-5215

(') Indicates elevation of tower in feet.

BOSTON-FORT WARREN, Georges Island (range tower atop fort)

EAST BOSTON-BELLE ISLE MARSH TOWER (16')

CANTON-ELLIOT TOWER, Blue Hills Reservation (640')

MEDFORD-WRIGHT'S TOWER (243')

Pine Hill, Middlesex Fells Reservation

MEDFORD-MYSTIC RIVER RESERVATION TOWER

Mystic Valley Parkway

MILTON-CHICKATAWBUT TOWER (504')

Blue Hills Reservation, Rt. 138

STONEHAM-BEAR HILL TOWER (317')

Middlesex Fells Reservation, Rt. 28

WESTON-NORUMBEGA TOWER (110')

Overlooking Charles River, Rt. 128

Pedestrian Parks

727-5215

BOSTON-RIVERBEND PARK

One and one half mile stretch of Memorial Drive between the Eliot Bridge and Western Avenue, which is closed to traffic from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm every Sunday, May to November.

CANTON-CHICKATAWBUT OVERLOOK

Blue Hills Reservation. Portions of Chickatawbut Road and Wampatuck Road are closed to vehicular traffic Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 8:00 pm on Fridays to 5:00 am on Mondays, early July to mid-October.

Running Paths

727-5215

BOSTON-LEE POOL RUNNING CENTER, 17.2 miles along the banks of the Charles River.

Showers and changing area available. Open mid-April through mid-October, weekdays 7:00am to 6:00pm, weekends 10:00am to 6:00pm. Located across from Mass. General Hospital on Charles Street. For more information call 782-2105.

BRIGHTON, CLEVELAND CIRCLE, 1.6 miles

HULL, NANTASKET BEACH, 4 miles

LYNN, NAHANT BEACH, 5 miles

SAUGUS, BREAKHEART RESERVATION, 3.1 miles

SOUTH BOSTON, CASTLE ISLAND, 6.2 miles

Sailing

BOSTON, COMMUNITY BOATING, 523-1038, 21 Embankment Road on the Charles River Esplanade between the Hatch Shell and the Longfellow Bridge. Programs from early April to early November.

SOMERVILLE, BLESSING OF THE BAY BOATHOUSE 628-9610, Mystic River, Shore Drive, near Rt. 93. Open from mid-June to early September.

SOUTH BOSTON, HARRY McDONOUGH SAILING PROGRAM, 268-8556, Day Boulevard, Castle Island Open from late May to early October.

Skiing Trails

Season from late fall to late spring - depending on weather conditions

Cross-Country

WESTON SKI TOURING, 891-6575

Open seven days a week till 10:00 p.m. Located at the MetroParks Martin Golf Course, 20 minutes from downtown Boston just off the Mass Pike off Rt. 128, or a 20-minute walk from the MBTA's Riverside Station.

Lighted, groomed trails, rentals, sales of new and used equipment, refreshments, showers, lockers, equipment repairs and maintenance, and reduced group rates. Beginner and intermediate lessons are available. For information on schedules and fees, call 891-6575.

MIDDLESEX FELLS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAIL

Middlesex Fells Reservation, 322-2851

Created by Harvard Community Health Plan and MetroParks, this free six-mile trail consists of two loops suited to a variety of skill levels. Bulletin boards, maps and trail markers delineate the route. Trailheads are located at the Sheepfold and Bellevue Pond parking lots. The public is welcome during the hours of 9:30am and 3:30pm. Free trail maps are available. (See p. 13 for directions.)

Downhill





Skating Rinks

Rinks are open from mid-November to mid-March. Fees are \$1.00 for adults and 50c for children (14 and under). Lessons and ice rental are available.

Please call the District Office for more information.

- (C) Concession (R) Skate Rentals
- (S) Skate Sharpening (L) Lessons

BOSTON-STERITI MEMORIAL RINK

Commercial Street, North End Charles District 782-0090

BRIGHTON-REILLY MEMORIAL RINK

Cleveland Circle Neponset District 698-8768

BRIGHTON-DALY MEMORIAL RINK

Nonantum Road (C,R,S) Charles District 782-0090

CAMBRIDGE-SIMONI MEMORIAL RINK

Gore Street (L) Charles District 782-0090

CHARLESTOWN

EMMONS-HORRIGAN-O'NEILL MEMORIAL RINK

Rutherford Avenue Charles District 782-0090

DORCHESTER-DEVINE MEMORIAL RINK

Morrissey Boulevard (C,R) Harbor District 727-5118

EAST BOSTON-PORAZZO MEMORIAL RINK

Constitution Beach, Orient Heights (C) Mystic District 662-8370

EVERETT-ALLIED VETERANS MEMORIAL RINK

Elm Street (C,L) Mystic District 662-8370

HYDE PARK-BAJKO MEMORIAL RINK

Turtle Pond Parkway Neponset District 698-8768

JAMAICA PLAIN-KELLY MEMORIAL RINK

Jamaicaway Neponset District 698-8768

LYNN-CONNERY MEMORIAL RINK

Shepard Street (R,S)

Mystic District 662-8370

MEDFORD-LoCONTE MEMORIAL RINK

Veterans Memorial Parkway (C,R,S)

Mystic District 662-8370

MEDFORD-FLYNN MEMORIAL RINK

Woodland Road (C,R,S)

Mystic District 662-8370

MILTON-ULIN MEMORIAL RINK

Unquity Road (C)

Neponset District 698-8768

QUINCY-SHEA MEMORIAL RINK

Willard Street (C,R,S,L)

Harbor District 727-8865

REVERE-CRONIN MEMORIAL RINK

Revere Beach Parkway

Mystic District 662-8370

ROXBURY-CASS MEMORIAL RINK

Martin Luther King Boulevard

Harbor District 727-8865

SOMERVILLE-VETERANS MEMORIAL RINK

Somerville Avenue (C,S)

Charles District 782-0090

SOUTH BOSTON-MURPHY MEMORIAL RINK

Day Boulevard (C,R,S)

Harbor District 727-8865

WALTHAM-VETERANS MEMORIAL RINK

Totten Pond Road

Charles District 782-0090

WEST ROXBURY-BRYAN MEMORIAL RINK

VFW Parkway

Neponset District 698-8768

WEYMOUTH-CONNELL MEMORIAL RINK

Broad Street

Harbor District 727-8865

Swimming Pools

Pools are open from late June to early September. Fees are 50¢ for adults and 25¢ for children (14 and under). Swimming lessons are available.

Please call District Office for more information.

(W) Wading pool also at location.

BOSTON-LEE MEMORIAL POOL Charles Street, West End (W) Charles District 782-0090

BRIGHTON/ALLSTON POOL

North Beacon Street (W) Charles District 782-0090

BRIGHTON-REILLY MEMORIAL POOL

Cleveland Circle Neponset District 698-8768

CAMBRIDGE-McCREHAN MEMORIAL POOL Alewife Brook Pkwy. & Ringe Avenue (W) Charles District 782-0090

CAMBRIDGE-VETERANS MEMORIAL POOL Memorial Drive at Magazine Beach Charles District 782-0090

CHELSEA-VIETNAM VETS. MEMORIAL POOL Carter Street near Chelsea Stadium Mystic District 662-8370

DORCHESTER

ANSEL, KAHALAS, KAPLAN MEMORIAL POOL Blue Hill and Talbot Avenues (W) Harbor District 727-5209

EVERETT-ALLIED VETERANS MEMORIAL POOL Elm St. near Glendale Square (W) Mystic District 662-8370

HYDE PARK-OLSEN MEMORIAL POOL Turtle Pond Parkway (W) Neponset District 698-8768

MALDEN-HOLLAND MEMORIAL POOL

Mountain Avenue (W) Mystic District 662-8370

ROXBURY-MELNEA CASS MEMORIAL POOL

Washington Street Harbor District 727-5209

SOMERVILLE-DILBOY FIELD POOL

Alewife Brook Parkway (W) Charles District 782-0090

SOMERVILLE-LATTA BROTHERS MEMORIAL POOL

McGrath Highway at Broadway (W) Charles District 782-0090

STONEHAM-HALL MEMORIAL POOL

Route 28 at North Border Road (W) Mystic District 662-8370

WALTHAM-CONNORS MEMORIAL POOL

River and Newton Streets (W) Charles District 782-0090

WATERTOWN-DEALTRY MEMORIAL POOL

Pleasant Street (W) Charles District 782-0090

WEST ROXBURY-PHELAN MEMORIAL POOL

VFW Parkway Neponset Distric

Neponset District 698-8768

(Provisions for the handicapped)

WEYMOUTH-CONNELL MEMORIAL POOL

Broad Street

Harbor District 727-5209

(Indoor pool-open year-round.)

Tennis Courts

Tennis Courts are open from dawn to dusk. Lighted courts are open until 11:00pm. (#) Number of courts. Please reserve court time in advance by calling district office. See page 20 for district listing.

BELMONT/WALTHAM-WAVERLY OAKS Beaver Brook Reservation, Trapelo Road (2)

BOSTON-NORTH END PARK, Commercial Street, (2)

BOSTON-CHARLESBANK PARK, Charles Street, (4) (lighted)

DEDHAM-RIVERDALE PARK, Bridge Street (1)

DORCHESTER-TENEAN BEACH, Conley Street, (1)

EAST BOSTON-CONSTITUTION BEACH, Orient Heights, (2)

EVERETT-ALLIED VETS. RECREATION CENTER Elm Street (2)

HYDE PARK-MARTINI SHELL, Truman Highway, (2)

HYDE PARK-WEIDER PLAYGROUND, Dale Street, (2) (lighted)

HYDE PARK-DOOLEY PLAYGROUND, Reservation Road (2)

MATTAPAN-RYAN PLAYGROUND, River Street, Mattapan (1)

MEDFORD-HORMEL STADIUM, Vets. Memorial Pkwy. (4) (lighted)

MILTON-HOUGHTON'S POND RECREATION CENTER Blue Hills Reservation, Rt. 128, (1)

NAHANT-NAHANT BEACH, Nahant Beach Parkway (5)

QUINCY-Willard Street at Shea Rink (2)

ROXBURY-Southwest Corridor Park (5) (1 lighted)

SOMERVILLE-GEORGE DILBOY FIELD, Alewife Brook Parkway (2)

SOMERVILE-SAXTON J. FOSS PARK, McGrath Highway (2)

SOUTH BOSTON-MARINE PARK, Day Boulevard, (2) (lighted)

WATERTOWN-CANALOUGA PARK, Pleasant Street (1)

The John F. Thompson Center for the Handicapped

The Thompson Center for the Handicapped is a playground facility specifically designed for handicapped and special needs people. Located on Turtle Pond Parkway in Hyde Park, the center is available for individuals and groups. Call 361-6161 for reservations.

MetroParks Zoos

BOSTON

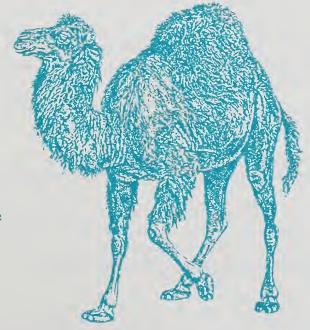
FRANKLIN PARK ZOO, Blue Hill Avenue and Columbia Road, Dorchester, entrance also off Arborway, Jamaica Plain. Seventy-two acres of zoological exhibits. Bird World open year-round. For more information call 442-2002.

CHILDREN'S ZOO, Emphasizes close contact of youngsters with small animals. Enter at Franklin Park Zoo. Call 442-2002 for more information.

MetroParks ZOOMOBILE is available by arrangement to cities and towns in the Metropolitan Parks districts. Zoomobile and staff. For more information call 438-6186.

STONEHAM

WALTER T. STONE MEMORIAL ZOO, Middlesex Fells Reservation, Pond Street, off Rt. 28. Twenty-five acres of zoological displays. Free flight aviary, open year-round. For more information call 438-6186.



Donations are accepted at both zoos.

Permit Information

Picnic Permits - A picnic permit is needed for groups of 25 or more and there is a \$5.00 fee.

Alcohol Permits - In order to maintain a safe, family atmosphere, the Metropolitan District Commission will no longer permit alcohol use in the reservations and parks.

Camping Permits - A camping permit is needed for Lovells Island, Peddocks Island and Camp Nihan (non-profit groups only) in Breakheart Reservation. There is no charge for a camping permit, but there is a \$10.00 fee per cabin, per night at Camp Nihan.

Group Visits - Schools, community groups, etc. must obtain a permit before visiting a reservation. There is a \$5.00 fee which is waived for school groups, except on Georges Island.

Payment along with following information is to be sent to appropriate office at least 10 days in advance of desired visit.

- *Permit requests take 10 days to process
- *Fees are to be paid by check or money order payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- *A letter must be submitted with the following information:
 - -name of group, telephone number and address
 - -person responsible for group while in reservation
 - -date for permit
 - -location in the reservation
 - -arrival and departure times
 - -number in group, # of adults, # of children, # of tents (if applicable)
 - -caterer's name, address and telephone #
 - -for islands: boat line or name and MS # of private boats

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation, Georges, Lovells and Peddocks Islands, and Wollaston Beach Reservation--Harbor Region Office, 98 Taylor St., Boston, MA 02122 Atm: Permit Clerk (727-5359).

Beaver Brook Reservation, Breakheart Reservation, Lynn/ Nahant Beach Reservation and Middlsex Fells Reservation-North Region Office, One Wicklow St., Malden, MA 02148 Attn: Permit Clerk (322-2851).

Camp Nihan (Breakheart)--Reservations and Historic Sites, 20 Somerset St., Boston, MA 02108 Attn: Permit Clerk (727-5250).

Blue Hills Reservation and Houghton's Pond Area-695 Hillside St., Milton, MA 02186 Attn: Permit Clerk (698-1802)

Tennis Courts and Athletic Fields Permits - These permits may be obtained by calling the district in which the facility is located. See page 20 for complete listing of districts.

Special Events Permits - (Walk-a-thons, roadraces...) Call the MDC Special Events Office, 727-9547.

General Information

Metropolitan District Commission	
20 Somerset Street, Boston, MA 02108	
Public Information Office	727-5215
Office of Public Affairs	727-5033
Reservations and Historic Sites	727-5250
Recreational Facilities and Programs	727-9547
Charles District	782-0090
Harbor District	727-5209
Mystic District	662-8370
Neponset District	698-8768
Metropolitan Police	727-5220
Emergency	523-1212
DISTRICTS	
Lower Basin, Boston	727-6781
Upper Basin, Brighton	782-3869
Old Colony, S. Boston	727-7806
Revere	284-0038
Blue Hills, Milton	698-5840
Middlesex Fells, Medford	396-0100
Nantasket, Hull	925-0054
Nahant	593-3148
Quabbin, Belchertown	(413) 323-7561
Wachusett, Clinton	(413) 365-4756
Marine Division, Boston	727-0537
Helpful Telephone Numbers	
Boston By Land Or By Sea	787-0660
Children's Museum	426-6500
Dept. of Environmental Management	740-1605
Greater Boston Convention and Tourism	536-4100
Division of Fisheries and Wildlife	727-3151
Exec. Office of Environmental Affairs	727-9800
Faneuil Hall Information	223-6098
Freedom Trail	787-8300
Massachusetts Historical Commission	727-8470
MBTA	722-3200
Museum of Science	723-2500
National Park Visitor Information	242-5642
New England Aquarium	973-5200
USS Constitution Museum	242-5670
EMERGENCY	911

Design: Carol Arsenault

A Commitment to Open Space and the Environment

In 1892, Charles Eliot proposed the creation of a Metropolitan Parks System. Eliot was a member of the Frederick Law Olmsted Landscape Architectural Firm, and the first landscape architect to work on development of the parks system. Eliot believed that particularly in a crowded urban area, people needed easy access to and contact with nature and open space in order to relax, unwind and escape the pressure of city life. To that end, Eliot developed a plan that would provide the growing city and its suburbs with scenery, parks and reservations to be held in perpetuity for the public's use and enjoyment.

Eliot's idea was to set aside beachfront along the bay, land along the Charles, Mystic and Neponset Rivers and high ground throughout the Metropolitan area, and to turn this property into regional parks. He envisioned the creation of a series of parkways and roads built and maintained with aesthetics in mind, to make travel between the parks easy and attractive. By 1893 Eliot's design had begun to take shape as the state created the Metropolitan Parks Commission and placed with it 9,177 acres of reservations, 13 miles of ocean frontage, 56 miles of riverbank and seven parkways. Since then, the system has grown. The Commission acquired and preserved thousands of additional acres of parkland that fit into Olmsted and Eliot's original design. It also built new parks, skating rinks, swimming pools, athletic fields, band shells and other recreational outlets. Even today, more property is being preserved; more historical sites are being restored; more ways to make the regional parks system safe and accessible and attractive are being devised.

We can only maintain this great park system with public support and cooperation. Please do your part by respecting each property and complying with all rules and regulations. Thank you.

> Metropolitan District Commission Public Information Office, 727-5215 20 Somerset Street, Boston, MA 02108

MetroParks

MetroParkways

MetroPolice

PureWater

Michael S. Dukakis

Governor

James S. Hoyte Secretary, EOEA William J. Geary
Commissioner